

# **Vision, Mission, Values and Principles**

The operating philosophy of the Vermont Department of Corrections.

## **Vision**

To be valued by the citizens of Vermont as a partner in prevention, research, control and treatment of criminal behavior.

## **Mission**

In partnership with the community, we support safe communities by providing leadership in crime prevention, repairing the harm done, addressing the needs of crime victims, ensuring offender accountability for criminal acts and managing the risk posed by offenders.

This is accomplished through a commitment to quality services and continuous improvement while respecting diversity, legal rights, human dignity and productivity.

## **Values**

Responsibility, Commitment, Integrity, Judgment, Creativity, Enthusiasm, Compassion

## **Principles**

We believe:

- That people can change.
- That community participation and support are essential for the successful delivery of correctional services.
- In the inherent worth and dignity of all individuals.
- In treating people with respect and dignity.
- In teamwork and the process of continuous improvement.
- In professional self-improvement.
- In the placement of offenders in the least restrictive environment consistent with public safety and offense severity.
- In fairness throughout decision making.
- In respect for the liberty interests, rights and entitlements of the individual.
- In individual empowerment.
- In non-violent conflict resolution.
- In maintaining a safe and secure environment.
- In the value of individual, cultural and racial diversity.
- That victims have the right to have an active role in determining how their needs can best be met.
- That offenders are responsible, to the extent possible, to repair harm done to victims and the community.